

AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS

The attached replacement sheet 5/5 of drawings replaces original sheet 5/5 with Figs. 5 and 6, and includes changes to Fig. 6. The mattress is now shown as "640", the cover as "610", and the sleeping surface as "612." The specification has been amended accordingly.

Attachment: Replacement sheet
 Annotated sheet showing changes

REMARKS

Claims 4, 21, 22, 25, 26, and 32-49 had been withdrawn due to a previous restriction requirement and have now been canceled.

Claims 1-3, 5-20, 23, 24, and 27-31 are pending in the application. Claims 1, 5, 24, 27, and 28 have been amended. New claims 50-59 have been added. Claims 1-3, 5-20, 23, 24, 27-31 and 50-59 remain in the application.

The drawings are objected to for failing to comply with 37 CFR 1.84(p)(4) because the reference character "640" has been used to designate both cover and mattress in Fig. 6. This objection has been addressed by amending Fig. 6 and paragraph [0045] of the specification. Withdrawal of the objection is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-3, 5-7, 9-11, 23-24 and 27 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) or (a) as being anticipated by Dewert.

Claims 1-3, 5-7, 9-20, 23-24, and 27-31 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Dewert '922 in view of Dewert '552.

Claim 8 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Dewert '992 in view of Dewert '552 as applied to claims above, and further in view of applicant's admission of prior art (see page 8 of specification).

Claim 8 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Dewert '552 in view of applicant's admission of prior art (see page 8 of specification).

Claims 12-17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Dewert '552.

Claims 18-20, 28-31 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Dewert '552 in view of Reeder et al.

Claims 1, 27, and 28 have been amended to include a flexible sheet disposed between the movable sections and the mechanical drive unit, wherein the flexible sheet is continuous in a

longitudinal direction of the mattress at least across one of the movable sections. (claim 1; claims 27 and 28 recite corresponding structural elements) The amended claims 1, 27 and 28, and the new claims 50-59 are supported by subject matter disclosed in paragraphs [0028] and [0029] of the specification.


Dewert '522 discloses in Fig. 4 a supporting device 4 with consecutive slats made of a springy material. The slats run in the transverse direction of the supporting device 4. (Para. [0054]) Conversely, the mid-sheet disposed between the movable sections and the mechanical drive unit is continuous in a longitudinal direction of the mattress across one or both of the movable sections, which is not taught or suggested by Dewert '522 or any of the other references of record.

In view of the above amendment, Applicant believes the pending application is in condition for allowance.

We believe that we have appropriately provided for fees due in connection with this submission. However, if there are any other fees due in connection with the filing of this Response, please charge our Deposit Account No. 18-1945, under Order No. SMCY-P01-103 from which the undersigned is authorized to draw.

Dated: January 23, 2006

Respectfully submitted,

By 
Wolfgang E. Stufius

Registration No.: 40,256
ROPES & GRAY LLP
One International Place
Boston, Massachusetts 02110-2624
(617) 951-7000
(617) 951-7050 (Fax)
Attorneys/Agents For Applicant

Attachments



ANNOTATED SHEET

Title: SELF-CONTAINED ARTICULATED MATTRESS
Ser. No.:

Inventor: DAMEWOOD, K.
Attorney Docket No.: SMCY-P01-103

5/5

Fig. 5

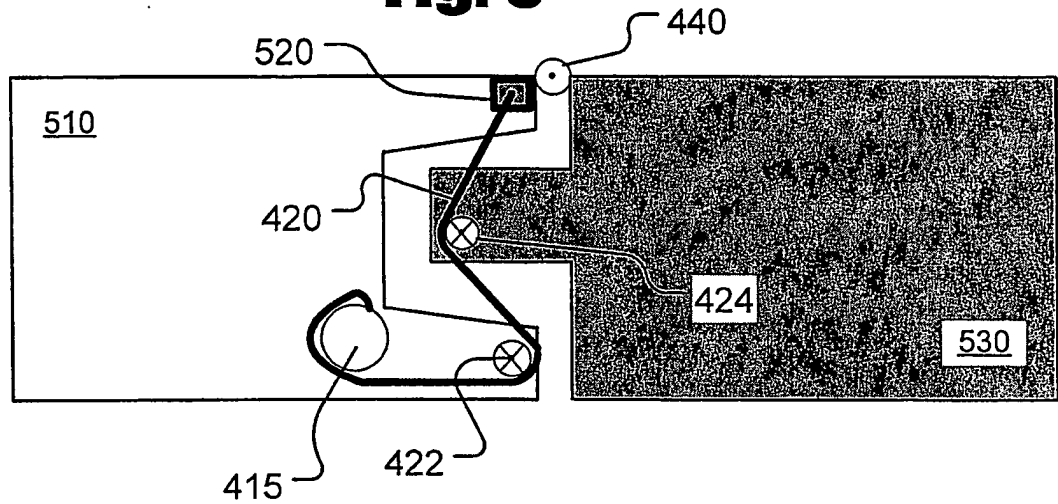


Fig. 6

